**Protection of Gems in Koderma, Bihar**

1324. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India conducted any study ti* map out gem mines in Koderma district in Bihar;

(b) how the costly stones and gems spread in 30 Kilometer area is being protected from illegal mining;

(c) the number of arrests made in that district during the last two years for illegal mining; and

(d) the steps taken to stop smuggling of precious stones from remaining years of Eight Five Year Plan?

G THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No. Sir.

(b) For checking incidence of illegal mining in the area, the Mines and Forest officials of the Bihar Government conduct regular inspection and initiate legal proceedings against the illegal miners. Section 144 CRPC has been promulgated in the area.

(c) For illegal mining, 42 persons have been are ested during the last two years.

(d) Frequent raids are conducted by the State Government Officials and steps have been taken to establish a police check post to check illegal mining in the area.

**Exemption from Drug Price Control in the basis of R&D**

1325. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 8358 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd June, 1995 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has received applications from other companies alongwith certificate from the department of Science and Tednology in respect of other drugs for exemption on the basis of R&D from Drug Price Control;

(b) if so, the time when his Ministry received these applications;

(c) since when these applications are pending and the reasons for the same;

(d) the procedure for exempting drugs from price control on the ground of R&D; and

(e) the time frame laid down by his Ministry for consideration of each application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Only one application along with the requisite certificate from the Depptt. of Science and Technology has been received in this Deptt, on 3.7.95 from M/s. Bayer Ltd. for exemption of price control of Bulk Drug Mebhydroline Napadisylate, £>n the basis of indigenous R&D efforts under-taken by the company. The processing of this application is held up for want of certain information/clarification which are still awaited from the applicant.

(d) The procedure involves consideration of application by the Expert Committee constituted for the purpose, in accordance* with the guidelines on the subject matter. Recommendations of the Expert